

# *Executive Proclamation*

## *State of South Dakota*

### *Office of the Governor*

*Whereas*, In the United States, one person dies by suicide every 12.8 minutes; with 41,149 deaths by suicide in our nation in 2013; and,

*Whereas*, It is estimated there are over one million survivors of suicide loss each year; and,

*Whereas*, Suicide is the tenth leading cause of all deaths in the United States and the ninth leading cause of all deaths in the state of South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, Suicide is the second leading cause of death for 15-24 year olds in the United States and the second leading cause of death for those under age 35 in the state of South Dakota; and,

*Whereas*, In 2014, the Helpline Center in South Dakota answered 1,599 suicide-related calls through 2-1-1 and the National Suicide Prevention Lifeline 1-800-273-TALK (8255); and,

*Whereas*, Community mental health centers across South Dakota offer mental health treatment services to people at risk and their families; and,

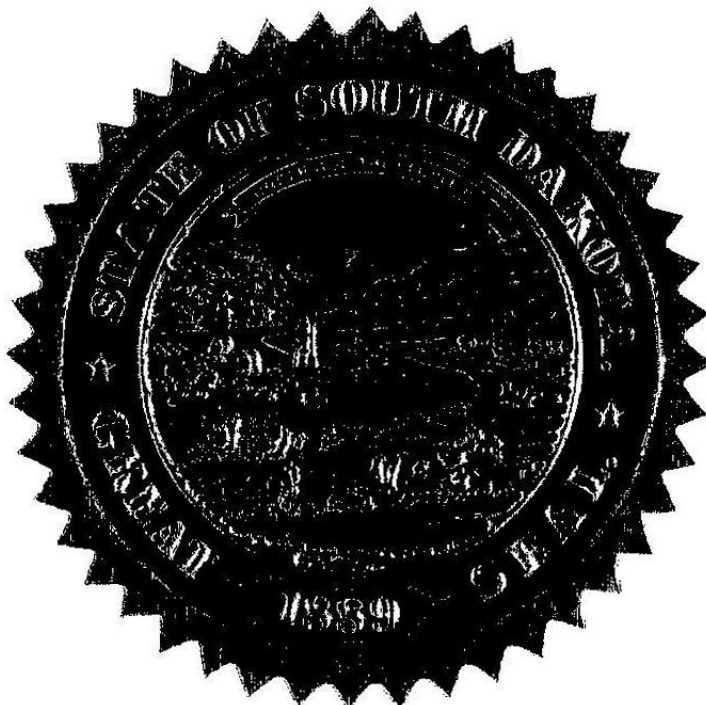
*Whereas*, Communities in South Dakota can work to reduce the stigma associated with mental illness and suicidality, and encourage people at risk to seek life-saving help; and,

*Whereas*, The South Dakota Department of Social Services is partnering with coalitions, educational institutions, and behavioral health organizations to identify, support, educate, refer, and treat youth at risk for suicide:

*Now, Therefore, I, Dennis Daugaard*, Governor of the state of South Dakota, do hereby proclaim September 7 – 13, 2015, as

## *SUICIDE PREVENTION WEEK*

in South Dakota.



*In Witness Whereof*, I have hereunto set my hand and caused to be affixed the Great Seal of the state of South Dakota, in Pierre, the Capital City, this Eighteenth Day of August in the Year of Our Lord, Two Thousand and Fifteen.

*Dennis Daugaard*  
Dennis Daugaard, Governor

Attest:

*Jeresa Bray* Deputy Secretary  
Shantel Krebs, Secretary of State